

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Anne Boullin et al.

Title: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A DEHYDRATED FOOD PRODUCT FROM A WET PLANT MATERIAL

Appl. No.: 09/908,980

Filing Date: July 20, 2001

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, submitted herewith on a modified Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

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RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached PTO-1449 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding European application. A copy of the Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. English-language counterparts of foreign-language documents have been provided where readily available. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609).

Applicants note that EP 0 449 005 was considered particularly relevant by the French Examiner. It describes a dehydration process wherein vegetable oil is used to coat the heating cylinders, however, the vegetable oil is added to lecithin. Moreover, coating of the cylinder occurs only at the beginning of the operation.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date October 22, 2001

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PTO/SB/08B (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: October 22, 2001

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/908,980
Filing Date	July 20, 2001
First Named Inventor	Anne Boullin et al.
Group Art Unit	Not yet assigned
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket Number	065691-0241

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code ⁴ (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		3,592,667	A	V. J. Kelly et al.	June 3, 1968	
		4,189,343		Overton	February 19, 1980	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		EP 0 449 005	A1	Societe Des Produits Nestle S.A.	October 2, 2001	1-5, 7-9	
		FR 1 364 898	A	J&J Coleman Limited	October 23, 1964	1	
		FR 2 796 814	A	Diana Ingredients Societe anonyme	February 2, 2001	1-10	
		GB 923 252	A	The Borden Company	April 10, 1963		
		GB 938 381	A	General Foods Corporation	October 2, 1963		
		GB 1 059 609	A	Joaquin Aquirre	February 22, 1967		
		FR 746 255	A	Sardik Incorporated	May 26, 1933		

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary, depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.